August, 2007 Volume 3, Issue 8 Copyright RCT

FROM THE EDITOR...

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REPEAT AFTER ME: "THE INTERNET IS NOT AMATUEUR RADIO!!

...And it's a good thing too! I've been spending way too much time on the internet reading about Amateur radio instead of getting on the air. I suspect quite a few of you are also wasting time there when the bands are dead like they are right about now.

At any rate, I think I'm going to take a break from the internet Ham radio sites. There is too much bickering and arguing going on there. Whew! If I want an argument, I can get one at any time with out a PC or anything. All I have to do is say certain things to the XYL!

Argument guaranteed!

I sure don't need the internet for that…

But there are some folks who not only live to argue, they also apparently live to spread dis-information to other folks, especially those who are new to the service. Please try to help our newest members in the old fashioned way, by setting the example and "Elemering" them as much as possible.

Speaking of Elmers, I'm still looking for any feedback on the "Elmers List". So far only one response.

On the immediate RCT horizon, we have the August Hamfest, the September W7DK at the fair, and last but not least, we are sponsoring a fund drive for this year's Salmon run.

Linda KE7FKX is the lead for the Hamfest, Pat KD7TRC is spearheading the W7DK booth at the WWA Fair, and Al N7OMS is running the "Salmon Run" fundraiser. Please check with any of these folks to get in in the fun. I have attended/participated in all of these events at one time or another and I can testify that each one is not only fun, but it is good for you!

Dateline: August 2007
***Sparky's* "View from the Shack"**

This and that, around the club, and more…

This is a test case article intended to browse through recent activities and coming events of possible interest to the Radio Club of Tacoma members. It will of course by design and intent be informal and attempt to record some of the Club's activities that might otherwise go unnoticed.

So, with little fanfare and less expectations, to infinity, and beyond… (with apologies to AD7AC who of course knows you can't go beyond infinity…)

A bit of editorial philosophy to start with

While there occasionally may be reason and rhyme as we go along, the goal is to ramble through the many and varied activities of the Club and its members as we take another trip around the sun.

"Sparky" welcomes comments, ideas and letters to "The RCT View", but reserves the right to procrastinate, and generally ignore social engineering or cranky inputs.

That said, we cast off on a new voyage in uncharted waters.

Current RCT's events

- *The Windows are in…*
- *Spring Cleaning…*
- Planning ahead

"July was a busy month around the Shack."

The big deal this month was replacing the Clubhouse Windows
Here's Hanson Windows arriving and part of the crew that showed up on Tuesday and Friday to do our part of the arrangement, assist in the cleanup. We removed the old storm windows on Tuesday and tracked around the installation to pick up debris and keep things tidy for Bob Hanson's team.

Spring Cleaning at the Shack

The Hanson windows folks had a bit of a problem on Tuesday, and were not able to begin the windows installation, even though they had the windows. As a result the folks that showed up removed the old storm windows which didn't take very long.

After a few mugs of java, the team tired of rag chewing and decided there were some things to do. AD7LJ examined the lawnmower and decided it didn't need repair, just old and cranky, and to prove it, he mowed the lawn, then he repaired the weed eater recently donated by K7MXE. AC7QN dropped in with his weed eater in hand and knocked down those pesky weeds till the gas ran out (that's Chuck's outside weed eating limit) KD4VOM gave the front hedges that were overgrowing the steps and railing a haircut and they look a bit cleaner now.

While they were rag chewing Javier, HR2J (Honduras) dropped by and chewed some rag with the group. After a quick consultation, Javier ran off to Fife, picked up a heavy duty mag-mount and returned where AD7LJ re-installed his mobile rig. Javier was visiting to make estate arrangements and is returning home to Honduras on the 15th.

K7HW dropped in to donate a Pitney Bowes Letter folder to help with the big mailings the club does several times a year. Unfortunately the shipper didn't package it well and it arrived with some damage that K7HW and AD7LJ are tackling… But it spits out tri folds like mad…

June was no slouch either…

Of course there was field day, but that will get full coverage elsewhere in the BARK and at meetings. The clubhouse continues to look a bit prouder as the result of KR7W, AC7QN and KD7TRC's work in fabricating, installing and finishing the West side Library Shelving. Thanks to them and of course the folks who donated cash for the materials.AC7QN donated and cut some plywood up and N7OMS went into the attic sauna to lay it down as flooring and aggravate the resident squirrels.

Another team has been busy over the past few months getting a handle on our property holdings. A major inventory is underway to re-document our equipment, and includes photographing and tagging.

As most of you already know, KE7EMW has published a new and improved membership roster… Handy and slick, it delivers the membership information you always wanted to have.

Don't stop thinking about tomorrow…

Salmon Run

(A Club property improvement and maintenance fund raiser project)

The Western Washington DX Club is sponsoring the 2007 Salmon Run contest on the third weekend in September and the Radio Club of Tacoma is taking that opportunity to raise some needed funds.

Many of you have been or will be home owners so it shouldn't come as a surprise that your clubhouse is in need of some TLC. Home repair is an ongoing even in the life of any structure. Our clubhouse is no exception! I hope you have all noticed some of the progress that has been made. Like the kitchen remodel, library redo (in progress) and new windows.

There are many good ideas coming from the membership, and with some extra funds these ideas could become reality. One suggestion that has been around for awhile is adding on to the garage with the intention of getting the club's generators out so that garage space can be used for other purposes. Not as glamorous but necessary is fixing the dry rot at various locations around the clubhouse, or taking care of the water that collects in the basement in the winter.

Now that you know that we need the money to fix up our house, let's have a fund raising event and put some money into a "clubhouse improvement and fix up fund."

You will soon be asked to pledge an amount for every Washington County that the W7DK contest group works during the Salmon Run contest. Let's say that your pledge amount is one dollar per county. There are thirty nine counties and if W7DK worked all of them you would be donating a total of $39 or a pledge of $ .50 would amount to $19.50. The Radio Club of Tacoma is a nonprofit organization and all donations will be tax deductible.

The funds realized from this project will be dedicated to repairing, maintaining and improving the club's real property. All donors will be provided with an official RCT acknowledgement for their donations for tax purposes.

Sometime soon a fellow club member will be contacting you to ask for your pledge. If you want to see the club move forward and get some badly needed repairs done, please be generous with your pledge.

Al Ferguson, N7OMS
Project Manager

ALAN N7OMS

General Meeting Minutes
11 July, 2007

The 11 July 2007 Monthly Membership meeting was held at the Pierce County Library Administration Building. . Vice President Jill Palmer K7JIL called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

Officers and board members present:

Vice President: Jill Palmer – K7JIL
Secretary: Larry Watson -- KD4VOM
Board Member: Alan Lentz –W7AML
Board Member: Bob Purdom -- AD7LJ
Board Member: Peter Baker – AD7EU
Board Member: Nick Winter – K7MO

A sign in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached. There were 36 signed in on the attendance roster.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Was led by Vice President Jill Palmer K7JIL

INTRODUCTIONS:

Self introductions were completed

ILLNESS OR SILENT KEY:

Jill reported on Frank AC7JY's encounter with a pit bull.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Larry Watson – KD4VOM

Correspondence: The usual utility bills and bank statements

TREASURER'S REPORT: No Report

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Hamfest: Linda KE7FKX reported on planning efforts for the upcoming Hamfest on 11 August. Linda needs more volunteers to sign up for the Hamfest schedule, and circulated that schedule for sign ups. An additional pallet jack is needed, and volunteers are particularly needed at 6 am on Friday for Vendor unloading and setup as well as unpacking and cleanup at the end of the Hamfest. Linda also urged all to promote the Hamfest on the various nets they participate in to help get the word out. Linda can be contacted by phone or e-mail. Contact information is on the W7DK Website.

W7DK at the Fair: Pat KD7TRC announced plans are getting underway for this year's Amateur Radio booth at the Western Washington Fair Hobby Hall. Sign ups will be coming soon and all should look at their schedules to find time to volunteer to support Amateur Radio. The shifts will be four hours long for two folks at a time. Volunteers get a free admission and the opportunity to promote this great hobby of ours. Rich "Mansoni" N7ANF urged volunteers to present a positive image at the fair and except for AD7LJ to comb their hair…

Tacoma Ethnic Fest: Peter AD7EU reminded us of the booth we are sponsoring at the Tacoma Ethnic Fest on the 28th and 29th of this month. Peter too asks for some help to man the booth and promote the Radio Club of Tacoma.

VE Report: Larry KD4VOM reported for John AC7WW that the 10 July VE session resulted in 5 new Technicians and one upgrade from Advanced to Extra.

A copy of the VE report is attached to the original copy of the minutes.

PROGRAM: Nick Winter – K7MO

Tonight's program was a summary of the overall score for this year's Field Day, followed by a video presentation of the 2006 Field Day

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Transmitter Hunt: Rich KR7W announced that the next meeting's program will be on transmitter hunting, a video of some top notch ARDF work.

Clubhouse Windows: Larry KD4VOM announced that the new clubhouse windows were installed last Friday.

Door Prize:
Davina KE7JQV won the Hot Press Hat door prize.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05

Board Meeting Minutes
18 July, 2007

The18 July board meeting was held at the Radio Club of Tacoma club house. President Randy Thompson AD7FF called the meeting to order at 7:32 PM.
This meeting was the 4 July 2007 meeting re-scheduled.

Officers and board members present:
President: Randy Thompson -- AD7FF
Vice President: Jill Palmer – K7JIL
Secretary: Larry Watson -- KD4VOM
Treasurer: Gary McFadden – K7UPG
Board Member: Alan Lentz – W7AML
Board Member: Bob Purdom – AD7LJ

A sign in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

Minutes from the 6 June 2007 board meeting were approved as read/corrected.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Larry Watson – KD4VOM

Correspondence: Larry reported the usual utility bills and bank statements.

A copy of the correspondence log is attached to the original copy of the minutes

Planning Calendar: *.A copy of the RCT Dates to Remember is attached to the original copy of the minutes.*

TREASURER'S REPORT: Gary McFadden – K7UPG

Gary provided the monthly financial report to attendees. Bob AD7LJ reported that almost half of the $600.00 + Field Day expenses were for porta-potties, and that we expect to reduce that cost considerably next year by using the Western Washington Hospital porta-potties…

A copy of the Monthly financial statement is attached to the original copy of the minutes.

ILLNESS AND SILENT KEY: Frank AC7JY is recovering from an encounter with a Pit Bull, and Wilma Churchill has returned home.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Hamfest: Linda KE7FKX provided a Hamfest status report. Table reservations are coming in and many of the Hamfest jobs have been subscribed to. We now have two pallet jacks and a wagon which should be enough. Linda is looking for someone to manage the Raffle and associated announcements and we need folks to help with unpacking, tear down, removing mats and returning the rooms we use to good condition to the school. Linda has ordered tables and negotiated a rate reduction. Setup and Teardown folks should wear gloves as the tables frequently have stables and splintered areas.

This Saturday, we will haul out the Hamfest signs and power cabling for the Hamfest.

Linda asked again that all who participate in Nets remind there group of Our Hamfest and encourage participation.

Linda also put the Board on notice that although she is comfortable with the administrative part of the Hamfest, she is very uncomfortable with managing the planning and recruitment. She will not be the Hamfest manager for next year, but offered to help with the administrative portion.

VE testing will be in the Cafeteria, and there was a recommendation to ask about using one of the "portable" classrooms instead.

Planning Team Report:

Nominations and Elections Planning: Larry KD4VOM recommended that we consider starting the nomination and election process earlier to encourage broader membership participation and understanding. His recommendation to post an August BARK article describing the Club's process, offices to be filled, criteria for running, and encouraging the membership to take an active role in club operations and management by serving was accepted by the board. Members interested in serving on the nomination or election committees should contact the Secretary by phone or e-mail royretreat@mailcan.com

Salmon Run Fund Raising Project: Larry KD4VOM reported for Al N7OMS who proposes we create a fund raising contest out of the Annual Salmon Run exercise. A Motion was made and passed to plan and conduct the Salmon Run Fund Raising Project with Al Ferguson N7OMS as its manager. The Salmon Run Contest runs 15 -17 September. Its rules can be found at: http://www.wwdxc.org/salmonrun/

W7DK at the Fair: Pat KD7TRC reports that planning is underway and the sign up schedule is accepting registrations.

VE Report: Larry KD4VOM provided the VE

Report for John AC7WW who is under the weather. The July session produced 5 new Technicians and one upgrade from Advanced to Extra.

Library Report: Larry KD4VOM reported that funding has been received for Phase II of the Library shelving project. Doug AD7AV is on a sabbatical and will be out of touch for some time.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Windows Installation: Steve KD7UBE reported receipt of the bill for the windows installation. It was slightly higher than expected and Steve has negotiated a reduction in the cost. A motion was made, seconded and carried to pay the bill.. The Board approved payment of the reduced invoice ($ 3614.34) following repair of one of the front window riser assembly. Steve also noted some minor interior wall damage, which should be easy for us to repair internally.

Property Line Encroachment: Bob AD7LJ provided a thorough review of the East side neighbor's encroachment on our property. Because of "adverse possession" laws it is imperative that we formally notify the property owners that they have violated our property and must remove the encroaching fence and improvements immediately. After discussion of the encroachment and possible future options, a motion was made, seconded and passed to send the letter by registered letter, signature required; providing formal legal notice to Lovy Properties, LLC.

Kitchen outlet timers: Larry KD4VOM reported that timers for the kitchen outlets have been purchased and are awaiting installation.

Boat Trailer Sale: The Board accepted Harry Wong N7DOE's offer of $ 100.00 for the old boat/antenna trailer. The title will be recovered from the safe deposit box and the Secretary will notify Harry and release the title to him.

NEW BUSINESS:

None appeared:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Pitney Bowes Letter Folder: Al Burleson K7HW has donated a very fast letter folder to the club. It arrived damaged in shipment, but Al and Bob AD7LJ have managed to repair it.

Discussion Topics:

Advertising in the BARK:

Frank AC7JY recommended the club pursue additional advertising in the BARK as a source of income. The following discussion centered on the legal issues associated with newsletter advertising as a source of income for a non-profit 501-c-3 organization. Of course we can accept payment for newsletter advertising, but the income would most likely be considered by the IRS as "Unrelated Business Income (UBI)" and thus not exempt from taxes. It also means that we must set up separate accounting for "Unrelated Business Income", file and pay business taxes on that income to the IRS. The following is a quote from a recent IRS Tax Exempt/Nonprofit workshop where UBI was considered so important that a third of the workshop was devoted to the topic:

> *"Many tax-exempt organizations sell advertising in their publications or other forms of public communication. Generally, income from the sale of advertising is unrelated trade or business income. This may include the sale of advertising space in weekly bulletins, magazines or journals, or on the organization's website."*

Another reason for concern about including advertising in our newsletter is postal regulations. (Keep in mind that only about 40 get the BARK by mail and we send it first class because the numbers are not enough to qualify for our bulk mail permit.)

Postal restrictions – the post office charges higher prices for advertising material than for editorial content. No matter what kind of mailing permit you obtain, you will pay more postage if you carry ads. But that extra postage might be recovered from ad income if it is substantial enough. In addition, if you mail by one specific permit category – nonprofit standard mail – then you are prohibited from running any ads for financial services, travel, or insurance. All of the postal regulations are available in the Domestic Mail Manual on their website.

Deferred agenda items:

The 2006 Financial Review

Facilities Damage and Alarm System replacement

BARK size and mailing costs

Training: Large Class procedures and policy

Rainwater Drain System

Telephone installation in the kitchen

Packet Systems issues

Repeater Operations

Amateur TV Station acquisition and installation

Facility Management Planning

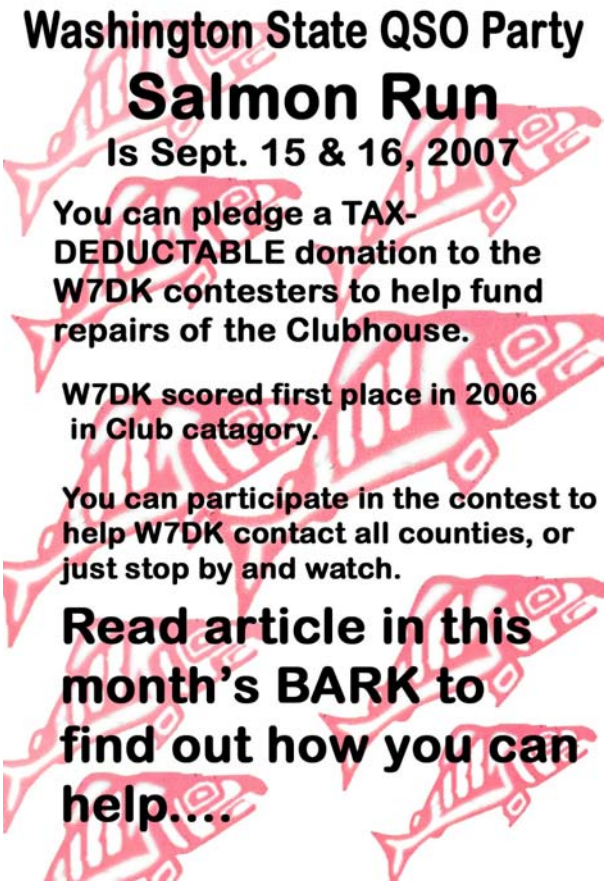
Program Planning and Budget development for:

W7DK at the Fair

Annual Awards Banquet

Mother's Day Brunch

The meeting was adjourned at 20:44 PM


Washington State QSO Party
Salmon Run
Is Sept. 15 & 16, 2007
You can pledge a TAX-DEDUCTABLE donation to the W7DK contesters to help fund repairs of the Clubhouse.
W7DK scored first place in 2006 in Club catagory.
You can participate in the contest to help W7DK contact all counties, or just stop by and watch.
Read article in this month's BARK to find out how you can help....

Planning for our Annual Election of Officers

This is the first in a series of articles intended to promote a better understanding and increased membership participation in the vital process of selecting RCT officers and board members.

The process of nominating and electing officers is vital to every organization because the abilities and talents of the leaders largely determine the achievements of the group.

While there are many ways of nominating and electing officers, there are time proven and accepted procedures that experience has proven better than others for selecting good leaders.

The Radio Club of Tacoma requires the election process to be conducted .by mail ballot and include all members in good standing.

The RCT Bylaws provide the basic process and procedures to be used. By themselves the Bylaws provide only a basic framework. They establish the basic eligibility criteria for Officer and Board positions in terms of "full" membership and tenure (2 years for Officers, and 1 year for Board members), and provide for the appointment of and basic responsibilities of the Nominating and Election Committees. The rest, is up to you, the membership.

Like our elected officers and board members, Membership also carries with it duties and responsibilities, and among them are the duty to participate in the process and serve when needed.

It is time now to begin the process of identifying and evaluating potential officers and board member candidates to fill the positions coming up for election this fall.

The Bylaws require the following positions be elected this year.

The Vice President, Secretary and three board members at large; Positions # 1, # 3 and #5 will be open for nominations and elections.

Candidates for Vice President and Secretary must have been RCT full club members for two years (*prior to assuming office on 1 January 2008, or when nominated or elected?*)

Candidates for the three board positions up for election must have been full members of the RCT for at least one year. (*Same question as above*)

Election excerpts from the Radio Club of Tacoma By Laws:

SECTION FOUR - ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(A) NOMINATING COMMITTEE. On or before the regular September meeting of each year, the President shall appoint a Nominating Committee consisting of a Chairperson and at least two other full members who are not current officers. Members of the nominating committee shall have been full members of the club for at least one year. Nominees' for Board Positions shall have been club members in good standing for at least one year. Nominees for Officers shall have been club members in good standing for at least two years.

(B) IN NOVEMBER 1999:

1. The Vice-President, Secretary and three board members at large ("odd" positions #1, #3, #5) will be elected for a two year term; re-election for these members will be in "odd years" (2001, 2003, etc.) for a two period.

2.The President, Treasurer and two board members at large ("even" positions #2, #4) will be elected for a one year term: re-election for these members will be in "even years" (2000, 2002, etc.) for a two year period. The committee shall nominate at least one candidate for each open officer and Board position. The committee shall present their nominees to the club at the October regular meeting. Additional nominations shall be accepted from the floor at the October regular meeting. No member may be nominated from the floor without giving their prior permission."

(B) ELECTION COMMITTEE. At the conclusion of nominations from the floor during the October regular meeting the President shall appoint an election committee consisting of a chairperson and at least two other full members none of who may be candidates for election. This committee shall be responsible for composition, distribution and collection of all ballots.

(C) BALLOT. The election will be held by secret written ballot. Candidates for each office shall be listed in alphabetical order by last name. Ballots shall be mailed to all voting members in good standing on or before October 20 of each year and shall be returned by mail postmarked no later than November 5 or personally delivered to the secretary prior to the start of the November annual meeting. The ballot as issued by the election committee will be the official document used for conducting the election. No other form, facsimile or copy will be accepted or counted. Voting by proxy will not be permitted.

Next month's article will address the duties and responsibilities of the officer and board positions up for election this year, and explore how things get done, or not, in an all volunteer organization.

Larry Watson
KD4VOM
Secretary, Radio Club of Tacoma

Happy Birthday July

Day	Name	Call	RCT Number
1	Marv Jacobson	**KC7JKA**	1831
2	Barbara Osborne	**W7UYL**	337
2	Dave Curry	**N7XRJ**	1554
2	Keith McIntire	**KB7NVW**	1725
2	Pat Wingerter	**KD7TRC**	2173
3	Jim Wilcox Jr	**KD7ZBK**	2220
3	Roland Svensson	**WQ7P**	2108
6	Charles Smith	**KD7UAN**	2166
8	Dennis Farnes	**KA7IIV**	1718
10	Rick Leary	**W7LKG**	644
11	Marie Fuller	**KA7HEG**	954
12	Mike Elwell	**W7GHW**	2329
13	Susan Cox	**KC7OQX**	1875
16	Harold Kirkendall Jr	**KE7FCP**	2280
17	Bob Moore	**KE7COQ**	2337
20	Lorraine Robertson	**KA7WGG**	1330
22	Sylvia Betts	**KC7UZZ**	1969
23	Thomas Jonez	**K7TDJ**	2045
25	Paula Cather	**AB7ME**	2142
26	Charles Rubert	**KA7GAP**	1216
26	Gary Robinson	**K7GGR**	2305
26	Karl Moore	**KE7LCY**	2325
27	Rob Spiry	**K7SPI**	2332
28	Bob Patrick	**W7EXC**	2195
28	Lynn Neece	**K7OKS**	2039
29	Alan Lentz	**W7AML**	2249

Happy Birthday August

Day	Full Name Familiar	Call	RCT Number
2	Larry Watson	**KD4VOM**	1864
3	Larry Vogel	**KD7WLR**	2222
3	Robert Patton II	**KD7YDL**	2314
4	Phil Gendreau	**W7PFZ**	1785
5	George Noble	**KK7FM**	1923
5	Richard Heasty	**KK7VH**	2070
6	Clark Ballard	**N7UH**	2229
6	Frank Billington	**W7FJB**	1320
7	Edward Harwood Jr	**KB7FEW**	1277
9	Eddie Harwood Sr	**KA7LGV**	1137
9	Joe Lester	**K7AWJ**	2235
10	Don Perry	**K7QLC**	522
10	Mike Sexsmith	**W7MSX**	2189
13	Ronald Renwick	**KE7EWH**	2279
15	Davina Nolten	**KE7JQV**	2330
15	Jeanne Morton	**KD7ZBM**	2215
17	George Lightner	**KD7QBE**	2076
19	Rob Lee	**K7TGU**	1550
21	Bob Crelling	**N7QOZ**	1401
24	Ralph Fuller	**KA7FIG**	950
25	JD Shaw	**KE7LCW**	2333
26	Harold Fisher	**W6JYV**	2019
27	Marilyn Olson	**KJ7BN**	1508
28	Steve Blacksten	**KD7UBE**	2161

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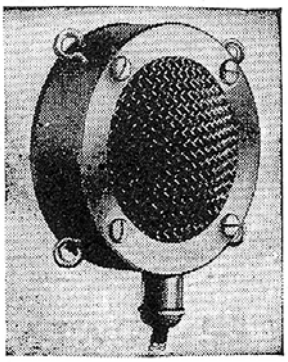

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The Radio Club of Tacoma's

Logger's Bark

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Treasurer: Gary McFadden, K7UPG k7upg@netzero.com

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Membership Info: FULL (licensed) and ASSOCIATE (non licensed) is $30 per calendar year. $25 for Licensed Seniors (65 and over). Licensed family members at same address pay $15 each for the first two and are free for the third, fourth, and so on. Fulltime students, licensed or non licensed, up to age 25 are $15 per year. Note: fees are applicable for the calendar year: Jan to Dec. Lifetime membership is 20 times the yearly fee you are eligible for.. Lifetime memberships are calculated based on the FULL and ASSOCIATE rates.

Radio Club Repeaters

Central Tacoma: 147.280 + PL=103.5 Central Tacoma Packet: 144.970
Crawford Mountain (SE Thurston County): 147.380 + PL=103.5
Central Tacoma: 440.625 + PL=103.5

THE LOGGER'S BARK
Radio Club of Tacoma, Inc.
P.O. Box 11188
Tacoma, WA 98411

TO RCT MEMBER:

AUGUST 2007 EVENTS

Club Meetings: Wednesdays August 8th and 22nd at the library Administration building at 7:30 PM, 112th & Waller road. Everyone is invited to attend.

Board Meeting, Wednesday July 1st 7:30 PM at the. Clubhouse - All members welcome.

License Testing - Tuesday, August 14th 7:00 PM at the RCT clubhouse.

BARK deadline Saturday August 25th 2007- PLEASE get articles, columns, etc. in by that time!

- Support OUR club - Attend meetings, volunteer, Elmer.
- Check in to the 2-meter Net every Tuesday night at 7:30, on 147.28. Hear additional information on programs and other events.
- Check in on the 10 Meter Net every Sunday evening, 8 PM, on 28.375 MHz USB